

BRIEF HISTORY
OF
1st HOSPITAL COMPANY
1st MEDICAL BATTALION
3rd MEDICAL BATTALION
IN
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

BY: LEON P. EISMAN
CPT MSC USN



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
MILITARY BLOOD PROGRAM OFFICE
OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL, U.S. ARMY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

16 April 1973

The undersigned has been designated to assist the Army Historical Division of the Army Surgeon General's Office in compiling information in relation to the Military Blood Program in support of the Southeast Asia Conflict.

The Army had management of the Blood Program in Southeast Asia and all reports were of Army origin. The Blood Program however, was tri-service and all Armed Services obtained their whole fresh blood through the Central Blood Bank. Even the Navy hospital ships obtained their supply from this source.

In view of the above, there is ample documentary records on what the Army did but little, if any, on the Navy and Marine Corps. A search of sources in the Washington area failed to uncover much information pertaining to the Navy and Marine Corps medical facilities. It was therefore felt that some attempt should be made to record what information there was before it was completely lost.

This report is attempt to summarize the activities of medical units attached to Marine Divisions. It is a brief accounting obtained from the Command Chronologies of the activities concerned on file at the Historical Division, Headquarters, Marine Corps.

Access to the files at Headquarters, Marine Corps is greatly appreciated and this report would not have been possible without their cooperation.

Leon P. Eisman

Leon P. Eisman
CAPT MSC USN
Deputy Director

1ST HOSPITAL COMPANY, FMF

The 1st Hospital Company arrived in Vietnam during April 1966 as an adjunct to the 1st Medical Battalion, First Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force. The 1st Hospital Company landed at Chu Lai in I Corps and set up under canvas near the sand ramp. During the next few months there was no immediate need for the Company to supplement the facilities of the 1st Medical Battalion with the result the Company did not become operational; however, the professional staff worked on a voluntary basis at the 1st Medical Battalion hospital at Chu Lai.

It wasn't until 5 September 1966 that construction of permanent facilities for the 1st Hospital Company commenced. At that point, Mobile Construction Battalion 3 (MCB 3) started erecting hard-back building at the site of the old 4th Marine Regiment command post, a distance of approximately 2 miles south of the 1st Medical Battalion hospital. By 23 September, wards designed to accommodate 120 beds were completed and the Command Post of the 1st Hospital Company was shifted to its new location. The first patients, transferees from the 1st Medical Battalion hospital, were received on 22 November 1966.

More facilities were gradually added and on 3 April 1967 the surgical complex consisting of triage, x-ray, pre-operation area, operating rooms, laboratory, intensive care unit (ICU) and shock and debridement area was completed and occupied. Thru these additions the surgical capacity was such that the hospital was capable of handling 40-50 mass casualties, the limiting factor being the size of the triage area. Thus at 1200 hours of 8 April 1967 the 1st Hospital Company became operational as a casualty receiving unit and placed under the opcom-nscom of the 1st Medical Battalion.

At the same time "B" company, 1st Medical Battalion was attached to the 1st Hospital Company. On 12 April, the 1st Hospital Company received its first mass casualties, 42 patients - 39 Army, 2 Marines and 1 Navy.

Prior to this, during the month of February 1967, the 1st Hospital Company was the sole medical installation in Chu Lai serving as a convalescent center with a 30 day holding capacity. At that time it likewise served as the out-patient department for Chu Lai and the surrounding area.

On 1 June 1967, a MUST unit was received by the 1st Hospital Company and became operational on the 10th as a C&C (collecting & clearing) company. On 20 June, four sections plus the operating room of the MUST was transferred to Tan Ky in support of the 5th Marine Regiment. The MUST unit returned to Chu Lai on 1 July and again incorporated within the 1st Hospital Company.

During October 1967 "B" company, 1st Medical Battalion, was returned to its parent organization and replaced at the 1st Hospital Company by the clearing platoon of "D" company, 1st Medical Battalion. Also on 20 October several US Army medical personnel reported aboard to augment the staff of the 1st Hospital Company since, at that time, the 1st Hospital Company commenced receiving overflow patients from the US Army 2nd Surgical Hospital. This Army augmentation continued for approximately four months and was of tremendous value in increasing the professional capability of the hospital. By the end of October thru the addition of an Army neurosurgeon, ophthalmologist and radiologist a complete head trauma team was established at the 1st Hospital Company hospital. This team combined with a Navy oral surgeon afforded immediate expert care to head trauma patients in Chu Lai around the clock.

In December 1967 Army nurses trained in operating room, intensive care and ward support techniques were assigned to the 1st Hospital Company further elevating the professional status of the hospital. Also during the month Mobile Construction Battalions 6 and 40 started erecting additional buildings (an ICU ward, 2 other wards and a supply building) as a part of the Army's expansion program and preparatory to the Army assuming command of the cantonment.

The temporary duty of the clearing platoon of "D" company, 1st Medical Battalion, was terminated in January 1968 and no replacement was forthcoming. During February work began on four more 50 bed wards and a new x-ray complex as part of the Army expansion program. Patient load fell considerably during February and March as the Army, at the local level, discouraged Army admissions to the 1st Hospital Company hospital. By orders of the Commanding General, 1st Marine Division, the 1st Hospital Company hospital was officially closed to admissions on 31 March 1968.

The 1st Hospital Company including supplies, vehicles, equipment and personnel embarked on LSTs at Chu Lai on 4 April and moved to Da Nang. At 0001, 7 April, the 1st Hospital Company assumed the responsibility for the treatment and care of patients formerly the responsibility of the 1st Medical Battalion, 1st Marine Division. During the ensuing six months this mission remained unchanged; however, the staff was augmented from time to time by other Marine (Navy) medical elements as follows: May - "B" company 5th Medical Battalion, 5th Marine Division plus clearing platoon of "D" company, 1st Medical Battalion; August - A Co., 1st Medical Battalion.

In September "B" company, 5th Medical Battalion reverted to its parent organization. At 0001, 25 September 1967 all patients remaining in the

1st Hospital Company hospital as well as the entire cantonment were transferred to the 1st Medical Battalion, 1st Marine Division. The 1st Hospital Company was closed to admissions until such time as it could establish the MUST unit at the western edge of the cantonment.

The 1st Hospital Company consisting of 2 operating suites and 4 wards (100 beds) of the MUST unit again became operational on 3 November 1968. The 1st Hospital Company continued to function in this form until 29 December when the MUST unit was secured in accordance with III MAF directives. On this date the 1st Hospital Company was placed in a standby status with zero patient load. The 1st Hospital Company departed the Republic of Vietnam on 27 February 1970.

PATIENT LOAD
1st HOSPITAL COMPANY, FMF

	Admissions				Out	Surgical	Surgical
	Total	IRMA	MBI	Disease	Patients	Cases	Procedures
OV 66	26				104		
EC 66	196				1,096		
TOTAL	222				1,200		

JAN 67	230				1,010		
FEB 67	129				1,004		
MAR 67	181				1,095		
APR 67	354	100			1,497		
MAY 67	689	310			2,198		
JUN 67	327	161	27	327	1,664		
JUL 67	332	137	31	164	1,173	73	
AUG 67	394	64	161	109	785	138	
SEP 67	450	259	43	148	1,149	233	
OCT 67	295	115	51	129	1,212	161	
NOV 67	309	133	37	139	1,166	144	
DEC 67	268	129	40	98	568	106	
TOTAL	3,958	1,408	350	1,115	13,426	935	

JAN 68	344	259	31	54	NR	NR	
FEB 68	126	61	24	41	512	51	
MAR 68	110	23	25	62	671	36	
APR 68	425	182	60	183	1,501	231	
MAY 68	864	459	46	359	3,138	624	
JUN 68	604	253	55	296	2,964	388	
JUL 68	524	209	48	267	2,685	211	
AUG 68	715	290	71	354	3,373	275	
SEP 68	462	149	58	255	4,633	109	
OCT 68	Not In Operation						
NOV 68	145	18	36	91	41	11	
DEC 68	183	15	143	25	143	19	
TOTAL	4,502	1,918	597	1,987	19,666	1,955	
%		43	13	44			

JAN 69	226	22	29	175	146	15	
FEB 69	177	27	14	136	146	15	
MAR 69	188	23	34	131	140	17	
APR 69	219	13	21	185	26	15	19
MAY 69	230	12	23	195	7	21	36
JUN 69	245	9	15	221	7	19	62
JUL 69	143	5	15	123	32	19	43
AUG 69	255	44	43	168	43	23	41
SEP 69	231	21	31	179	143	15	46
OCT 69	242	9	32	201	54	15	45
NOV 69	183	10	17	156	143	3	25
DEC 69	144	12	3	129	170	4	27
TOTAL	2,483	207	277	1,999	1,057	181	444
%		8	11	81			

GRAND TOTAL	11,165	3,533	1,264	5,101	35,349	3,071	
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1ST MEDICAL BATTALION, 1ST MARINE DIVISION, FMF

On 20 March 1966, the 1st Medical Battalion, 1st Marine Division, FMF, (less "B" and "C" companies) landed at Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam and set up in tents at a predetermined area on the shore of the South China Sea and assumed OPCOM of the cantonment occupied by "B" company 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Marine Division. The 1st Medical Battalion also took over the rather primitive facilities maintained by "B" company, 3rd Medical Bn. Within 24 hours the battalion was hard at work as it joined with "B" company in support of operation TEXAS receiving over 100 casualties. As a result of this influx of casualties the capacity of the 1st Med. Bn. hospital was increased to 180 beds thru the erection of general purpose tents. This also permitted the hospital to increase its holding period to 15 days. On the 27th of March "D" company arrived from Okinawa ("B" company remained on Okinawa as 1st Med. Bn., Rear) and was immediately transferred to Da Nang where it joined the 3rd Med Bn. and was redesignated "B" Med., 3rd Med. Bn. Simultaneously "B" company, 3rd Med. Bn. which was already stationed at Chu Lai became "D" company 1st Medical Battalion. On the following day, the 28th, the 1st Medical Battalion supported operation INDIANA.

The month of April was generally characterized by cantonment planning and the erection of prefabricated building by Mobile Construction Battalion 3 (MCB 3). New facilities consisted of a pharmacy, laboratory, sick call area, supply building, a recovery/ICU ward and 2 (of 4) operating rooms.

All facilities were of the hard-back type with the exception of the ICU ward and operating rooms which were housed in quonset huts. The first clearing platoon deployed on 21 April in support of operation HOT SPRINGS. This deployment employed a new concept whereby (shock and resuscitation)

team was utilized close to the combat area. The S&R team set up in 2 hours adjacent to the airstrip at Quang Ngai. During the limited time of the operation, 1600 21 April to 1200 22 April, the team handled 44 casualties: 32 Marines (1 KIA), 2 Navy, 5 ARVN and 5 Viet Cong. Thirty-eight casualties were medical evacuated to other medical facilities while 6 were returned to their parent organization. An appraisal of the team's capabilities was that it could handle an estimated 150 casualties per day. By deploying a S&R team in this manner it was judged would provide three benefits: (1) provide better care more rapidly to the seriously/critically wounded; (2) treatment of minor injuries in the area of a man's unit resulted in less lost time in returning him to his unit; and (3) required short helicopter lifts and permitted for consolidation of patients requiring transfer to other medical facilities.

The Vietnam conflict was probably unlike any other war as far as hospital admissions were concerned. No longer were military hospitals restricted to treatment of sick and ^{wounded} ~~and~~ military personnel but also accepted civilians injured as a result of hostile action or appealing for medical assistance. *(THIS IS NOT NEW)* It was not surprising therefore that on 24 April a baby was delivered at the 1st Medical Battalion hospital. Mother and son did fine and were soon returned to their home. With helicopter evacuation, ARVN, Free World Forces, enemy and even civilian casualties were "dumped" on the doorstep of the 1st Medical Battalion. This required the battalion to set aside separate wards for enemy and civilian occupancy. During April the Battalion started ~~the~~ ^{its} participation in the MEDCAP program by establishing a clinic in the local village of San Hai.

On 9 May the S&R team supported operation MONTGOMERY. The operation

lasted until the 14th and again casualties were light - 117 patients were seen of ^{whom} 56 (48%) were returned to full or light duty. On the 27th of May "B" company arrived from Okinawa bringing the 1st Medical Battalion to T/O strength for the first time since its arrival in Vietnam.

In July it became necessary for the hospital to set aside two wards for the isolation of malaria cases which were increasing in frequency. At that time there were 52 diagnosed malaria patients and 44 FUO's (fever of unknown origin).

^{in August}
~~August~~ saw the S&R team receive its baptism of fire when it supported operation COLORADO near Tam Ky during the period 6-22 August. On the night of 12 August the logistic support area as well as the S&R team area was hit by mortar, recoilless rifle and small arms fire necessitating the team to operate under blackout conditions. This operation, COLORADO, put the S&R team to its most extensive test to date, handling 533 patients. Those administered to included: 395 Marines (21 KIA plus 2 deaths resulting from electrical shock as a result of being struck by lightning); 13 Navy (2 KIA); 9 Army (1 KIA); 1 Air Force; 97 ARVN, 15 Vietnamese civilians, 2 Viet Cong suspects; and 1 Viet Cong. Causes for treatment were also varied - 232 battle wounds, 39 heat exhaustion, 28 gastro-enteritis, 9 electrical shock, and 175 unspecified.

The mission of the 1st Medical Battalion was to provide for the collection, emergency definitive treatment, temporary hospitalization and evacuation of casualties as well as to plan, supervise and perform timely ^{protective measures for the control of disease common to field operations.}

In addition to this classical amphibious warfare mission, the 1st Medical Battalion, in Vietnam, also acquired the mission of providing general clinical ^{and hospital services to the men of the 1st Marine Division and surrounding}

Marine Corps elements to insure their expeditious return to duty where ever possible. As already described, the 1st Medical Battalion also provided small medical units deployed into combat zones to act as primary triage centers in support of battalion or regimental sized operations.

Commencing on 17 October 1966 with the deployment of "A" company to Da Nang to support the 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, the ^{al}fractionization of the 1st Medical Battalion began and seldom thereafter did the Battalion operate as a recognizable entity. That the Battalion was able to compile such an outstanding record in the face of such diversities can be attributed to the fine esprit d'corps exhibited by assigned personnel. On 24 December 1966 the Command Post of the 1st Medical Battalion was shifted from Chu Lai to Da Nang in order to assume the operation of the medical facility formerly operated by the 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Marine Division. "B", "C", and "D" companies remained at Chu Lai and continued to operate the 1st Medical Battalion hospital located there. As might be expected, difficulties were encountered from operating two field hospitals by one battalion organized and equipped for mobile operations since it diluted equipment and personnel in the communications, mess, motor transport and security categories.

Normal operation of the two hospitals at Chu Lai and Da Nang marked the first quarter of 1967 with various C&C (collecting & clearing) platoons supporting Divisional operations. On 1 April, the 1st Hospital Company at Chu Lai became OPCON/ADCON to the 1st Medical Battalion. Construction of

additional facilities commenced in April at both 1st Med Bn, Cantonments
and by June a new x-ray facility and 3 new wards were completed at Da Nang.

In June an interchange of an orthopedist and an anesthesiologist took

place between the 1st Med. Bn. and the US Hospital Ship Repose (AH-16). This action fostered a better understanding of the total medical care in support of the Division as well as providing an appreciation of work ashore vs afloat. August brought about the completion of an extension of the ICU ward and completion of operating rooms 5 and 6 at Da Nang. The ICU extension increased capacity by 25 beds; the opening of operating rooms 5 & 6 gave the 1st Medical Battalion operating capability equalling those of the US¹S Repose and US¹S Sanctuary combined. By mid-October the 1st Medical Battalion conducted its 2,000 surgical operation for the year 1967 in the Da Nang facilities.

"B" company departed Chu Lai and rejoined the 1st Medical Battalion at Da Nang on 5 October closing out the Chu Lai hospital and reuniting the 1st Medical Battalion for the first time in a year. However, this unity was of short duration for early in January 1968 "C" company was dispatched to Phu Bai where it began operating a 60-bed hospital on 19 January in support of Task Force X-ray. On 17 January the 2nd platoon of "B" company arrived in Phu Bai from Quang Tri.

On 2 April 1968, the 1st Medical Battalion displaced, by echelon, to a new location at Phu Bai to put a new hospital complex into operation. The new hospital consisted of 2 operating rooms, a 30 bed ICU ward plus auxiliary services. This was in addition to the MUST unit operated by "C" company.

Consequent to this move, the 1st Hospital Company moved from Chu Lai to Da Nang taking over the vacated 1st Medical Battalion cantonment on 8 April.

By May the 1st Med. Bn. at Phu Bai had increased its bed capacity to 185,

During August "A" company moved back to Da Nang, was attached to the 1st Hospital Company as a replacement for "B" company 5th Med. Bn. which

reverted to its parent organization. In September the 1st Medical Battalion conducted a phased move back to its old enclave in Da Nang. On the 30th, the MUST unit which had been operated by "C" company was detached and transferred to the 1st Hospital Company.

The 1969 TET offensive commenced on 23 February and lasted through the 27th. During the early hours of the 23rd, enemy forces penetrated the 1st Marine Division's Command Post defenses creating a mass casualty situation. The 1st Medical Battalion reacted by sending 15 ambulances to nearby Marine units - the ambulances encountered intense enemy fire but sustained no damage. During the offensive, the hospital administered to 412 casualties.

April 27th was another memorable day for the 1st Medical Battalion. On that date, enemy sappers attacked a nearby ammunition dump, the exploding ordinance from which endangered the Medical Battalion conclave. All patients hospitalized in the 1st Medical Battalion hospital were evacuated to the NSA (Naval Support Activity) hospital while the staff of the Medical Battalion was evacuated to the 423rd Army Transportation Battalion compound. The Medical Battalion compound suffered heavy damage especially to the mess hall and the operating rooms. Repairs were accomplished ~~with~~ rapidly and the hospital was again operational by 30 April.

There was a widespread attack on the 1st Marine Division TACR (Tactical Area of Responsibility) on 11 and 12 August resulting in 191 Marine combat casualties. At 0615 of the 12th, a 122-mm rocket hit the Medical Battalion cantonment but, fortunately, only hit and destroyed a SE Asia hut containing supplies; *no personnel injuries were sustained.*

The remainder of 1969 and most of 1970 and 1971 was relatively quiet permitting the Battalion to carry out its mission while at the same time

expand its MEDCAP activities. "A" company stood down on the 1st of March 1970 and departed Vietnam on the 12th. "C" company was notified in July that it would be redeployed and departed on 27 September 1970. The remainder of the 1st Medical Battalion, with the exception of "A" company, stood down on 29 March 1971. "A" company was retained in-country to support the 3rd MAB (Marine Amphibious Brigade) until 7 June 1971 when it too received stand down orders. The last remaining unit of the 1st Medical Battalion, "A" company, departed Vietnam on 25 June 1971 closing out the 1st Medical Battalions 5 year 3 month involvement in the Vietnam conflict.

OPERATIONS SUPPORTED BY ELEMENTS 1st MED BN, 1st MAF DIV

MAR '66	INDIANA	JUN '67	CALHOUN
APR '66	HOT SPRINGS	AUG '67	COCHISE
MAY '66	MONTGOMERY	SEP '67	SHIFT
JUN '66	KANSAS	OCT '67	KNOX
AUG '66	COLORADO	NOV '67	ESSEX
NOV '66	RIO BLANCO	NOV '67	FOSTER
DEC '66	SIERRA	DEC '67	AUBURN
JAN '67	DE SOTO	JAN '68	Task-Force x-ray
FEB '67	INDEPENDENCE	OCT '68	MAUI PEAK
APR '67	UNION I	DEC '68	TAYLOR CORBIN
MAY '67	UNION II	JUL '69	DURHAM PEAK
JUN '67	ADAIR		

PATIENT LOAD

1st MEDICAL BATTALION, 1st MAR DIV, FIF

	ADMISSIONS					OUT PATIENTS				
	TOTAL	IRMA*	NBI	DISEASE	US MIL	US CIV	ARVN	VIET CIV	FREE WORLD	
APR 66	504	150	51	303	1,716		17	102		
MAY 66	546	185	93	268	NR	NR	NR	NR		
JUN 66	694	143	123	428	1,398	106	7	106		
JUL 66	723	152	79	492	1,390	18	6	136		
AUG 66	933	256	113	564	1,964	81	9	149	17	
SEP 66	767	239	91	437	2,192	18	24	198	60	
OCT 66	825	170	127	528	2,001	40	26	329		
NOV 66	823	279	100	444	2,023	36	103	438		
DEC 66 ¹	623	211	120	292	885	21	76	75		
"	251	97	34	120	509	2	0	0		
TOTAL	6,689	1,882	931	3,876	14,078	322	268	1,535	77	
%		28	14	58	86	2	1.6	2.4	0.5	

Note:

(¹) Chu Lai

(²) DaNang

(*) Includes 431 Vietnamese civilians, 95 ARVN, 76 ROK Marines & 1 Australian reported admitted for months APR thru SEP. Starting in OCT no break down by nationality.

PATIENT LOAD

1st MEDICAL BATTALION, 1st MAR DIV, FMF

ADMISSIONS										OUT PATIENTS	
		Chm Lad		Da Hong		Chm Lad		Da Hong			
	Total	IRHA	NBI	Disease	Total	IRHA	NBI	URIA	NRI	Discharge	
JAN 67				NO REPORT							
FEB 67				NO REPORT							
MAR 67	534	243	88	203	691	391	110	391	110	190	1,329
APR 67	358	130	42	186	621	361	87	361	87	173	1,497
MAY 67	689	310	55	324	750	329	100	329	100	321	2,193
JUN 67	327	161	27	139	519	273	177	273	177	469	1,664
JUL 67	330	137	31	162	722	277	142	277	142	303	1,941
AUG 67					829	260	153	260	153	416	1,899
SEP 67					925	562	116	562	116	247	1,796
OCT 67					424	125	96	125	96	203	1,784
NOV 67					303	325	145	325	145	333	1,643
DEC 67					643	164	97	164	97	352	1,499
TOTAL	2,238	981	243	1,014	7,327	3,067	1,223	3,067	1,223	3,037	7,861
%		44	11	15		42	17			41	

ADMISSIONS										OUT PATIENTS	
		Fou Bad		Da Hong		Fou Bad		Da Hong			
	Total	IRHA	NBI	Disease	Total	IRHA	NBI	URIA	NRI	Discharge	
JAN 68					616	277	85	277	85	254	1,464
FEB 68					824	507	69	507	69	243	1,142
MAR 68					1,285	641	223	641	223	421	1,817
APR 68	482	273	72	137	213	68	44	68	44	101	906
MAY 68	945	414	113	418							1,493
JUN 68	761	158	106	497							1,352
JUL 68	654	179	81	394							1,439
AUG 68	526	125	110	291							1,130
SEP 68	383	89	59	235							777
OCT 68					633	177	88	177	88	363	1,427
NOV 68					504	178	84	178	84	242	1,263
DEC 68					581	197	122	197	122	262	1,331
TOTAL	3,751	1,238	541	1,972	4,656	2,045	715	2,045	715	1,896	6,672
%		33	14	53		44	15			41	

PATIENT LOAD

1st MEDICAL BATTALION, 1st MAR DIV, FMF

	Admissions				Out Patients
	Total	IRMA	MBI	Disease	
JAN 69	729	291	133	305	1,863
FEB 69	671	332	107	232	1,390
MAR 69	737	351	114	272	2,090
APR 69	753	248	153	352	2,363
MAY 69	718	258	139	321	1,052
JUN 69	652	234	114	304	1,092
JUL 69	692	161	114	417	907
AUG 69	875	322	117	436	1,750
SEP 69	876	210	141	525	1,870
OCT 69	749	72	134	543	2,351
NOV 69	918	113	144	661	2,345
DEC 69	718	77	157	484	2,819
TOTAL	9,038	2,669	1,567	4,852	21,922
%		29	17	53	

JAN 70	698	141	151	406	2,578
FEB 70	622	98	160	364	2,775
MAR 70	822	133	160	529	319
APR 70	886	130	160	596	3,618
MAY 70	1,071	200	267	604	4,273
JUN 70	736	193	399	144	3,978
JUL 70	839	187	148	504	3,361
AUG 70	833	160	144	529	3,377
SEP 70	649	133	99	417	3,249
OCT 70	774	98	82	594	2,919
NOV 70	498	93	50	350	2,469
DEC 70	111	21	3	82	2,889
TOTAL	8,539	1,592	1,823	5,119	35,805
%		19	21	60	

JAN 71	449	77	70	302	3,639
FEB 71	239	45	52	142	1,861
MAR 71	360	69	64	227	1,526
APR 71*	164	15	30	119	605
MAY 71*	205	6	32	167	284
TOTAL	1,417	212	248	837	7,825
%		15	17	68	

Note:

(*) "A" Co., 1st Med Bn. only

CONSOLIDATED PATIENT LOAD

1st MEDICAL BATTALION, 1st MAR DIV, FMF

APRIL 1966 - MAY 1971

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

	Admissions				Out
	IRMA	NEI	Disease	Total	Patients
1966 :	1,382 :	931 :	3,376 :	6,689 :	16,280
1967 :	4,048 :	1,466 :	4,051 :	9,565 :	26,351
1968 :	3,283 :	1,256 :	3,868 :	8,407 :	16,032
1969 :	2,669 :	1,567 :	4,852 :	9,088 :	21,922
1970 :	1,592 :	1,828 :	5,119 :	8,539 :	35,805
1971 :	212 :	248 :	957 :	1,417 :	7,925
TOTAL:	13,686 :	7,296 :	22,723 :	43,705 :	124,315
% :	31 :	17 :	52 :		

3RD MEDICAL BATTALION, 3RD MARINE DIVISION, FMF

The 3rd Marine Division was the first Marine element committed to Vietnam, landing in DaNang, I Corps, in June 1965. A component of the reinforced Division was the 3rd Medical Battalion.

From the chronological history of the 3rd Medical Battalion it appears that the Division was following the amphibious warfare doctrine proved so effective during World War II whereby various letter companies of the Medical Battalion were attached to regiments for the purpose of establishing and operating small field hospitals while H&S (Headquarters and Support) Company and the remaining letter company was charged with establishing and operating a slightly larger divisional hospital. The mission of the 3rd Medical Battalion was: "triage, sorting, transporting and temporary hospitalization and evacuation after first aid and emergency surgical measures have been performed." From this mission statement, it can be assumed that the 3rd Medical Division activities were intended to operate essentially as a "collecting and clearing" capacity with no intent at "holding."

Following these lines, the 3rd Medical Battalion was initially positioned, in July, as follows:

HQ 3rd Marine Div (DaNang) - H&S Co.; "C" Co. (reinf); "D" Co.

(less) "C&C" Platoon

FLSU #1 (Chu Lai) - "B" Co. (reinf) plus "C&C" Platoon "D" Co.

FLSU #2 (Phu Bai) - "A" Co.

BLT 2/7 "C" Co. (-) - attached to 1st Marine Division, Advance
(Okinawa)

"C" Co. C&C Platoon established at Qui Nhon

Marine amphibious operations and predicated on the obtaining and securing of beach heads and further expansion in accordance with a specific battle plan. It is not usual Marine doctrine to "occupy and hold" territory. Thus, in the outfitting allowance no provisions are made for permanent type structures and tentage is provided for shelter. Such was the situation of the 3rd Medical Battalion upon landing in Vietnam. However, it soon became apparent that the current operation was unique and that the Division would be in Vietnam for an indefinite length of time which dictated a more permanent type of housing. Accordingly, a slow but gradual construction program was initiated utilizing the "hard back" mode of construction; more weather-proof and more readily cleanable facilities, so necessary for surgery, ^{are} ultimately provided by erection of Quonset huts. As more of this had been planned, the construction program within the 3rd Medical Battalion was painfully slow ^{again} to a lack of materials.

While patient care was not jeopardized, the 3rd Medical Battalion operated under considerable handicap as a result of less than T/A strength. It remained until September 1965 for the Battalion to receive adequate personnel to properly accomplish its assigned mission. Since hostilities were at a low level from June until December 1965, the activities of the 3rd Medical Battalion were varied during this period. The DaNang element was busily reorganizing its facilities.

more along the lines of hospital operations rather than a collecting and clearing station and conducting both in-service and Marine training. "A" Company at Phu Bai was supporting 2,200 Marine, 1,200 Army, and 100 Navy and Air Force personnel. In addition, it was seeing and treating approximately 50-60 Vietnamese villagers per week at sick call. "B" Company, Chu Lai, was essentially an in-patient treatment facility. Personnel of the Medical Battalion ^{had} also closely affiliated themselves with Hue medical school and various provincial and ARVN hospitals. These U.S. Navy medical personnel provided a most valuable professional stimulus to the native medical cadre and in turn gained exceptional professional experience. "D" C&C platoon participated in operation HARVEST MOON in December.

January 1966 saw a continuation of the previous years activities. A&S "Co," DaNang, continued to make improvements in the 3rd Medical Battalion compound. "A" Med instituted out-patient rounds, two afternoons per week, with senior Hue medical students to the Tay Loc orphanage and the Tu Dam Pogoda. "C" Med were beefed up thru the receipt of medical materiel from the USNH Saigon which was closed. "D" Med participated in operation DOUBLE EAGLE.

Despite the existance of two FLSU's (Force Logistic Supply Unit) in-country, the obtaining of medical supplies left much to be desired.

It wasnt until February 1966 that the Medical Battalion started to

receive supplies ordered in August and September 1965. Probably the most noteworthy February event was the arrival on-station of USIS Repose (AH-16). The event greatly alleviated the situation at Chu Lai as "B" Med was able to evacuate 82 of its patients to the hospital ship making room for more casualties received at "B" Med from operation DOUBLE EAGLE. Facilities of "C" Med were amplified, in February, by the completion of four new operating suites and four new wards.

The 1st Marine Division, including the 1st Medical Battalion, landed at Chu Lai in March with the 1st Medical Battalion absorbing "B" Med, 3rd Medical Battalion. As a result of this action, "D" Company 1st Medical Battalion was transferred to the 3rd Medical Battalion and redesignated "B" Med, 3rd Medical Battalion.

During April 1966, "A" Med expanded its liaison activities by conducting, on request, weekly surgical rounds at ARVN hospitals and acted as consultant to the ARVNs. "D" Med participated in operation VIRGINIA.

For the next several months activities of the various elements of the 3rd Medical Battalion remained fairly normal and in place. The Battalion supported operation CHEROKEE in May and HASTINGS in July.

October 1966 brought forth a radical movement of medical units.

Part of the 1st Medical Battalion was moved from Chu Lai and took over the 3rd Medical Battalion compound at DaNang. This was necessitated by "H&S" Company, "A" Company and the clearing platoon of "D" Company,

3rd Medical Battalion, being moved to Dong Ha to establish and operate an advanced base hospital at that locale. At the same time, a clearing platoon of "B" Med was dispatched to An Hoa. "D" Company, and sections of "H&S" Company remained in DaNang under the 1st Medical Battalion to oversee the orderly movement of the 3rd Medical Battalion organizational gear to the new locations. In December "D" Company moved to Dong Ha and "H&S" to Phu Bai.

Furthermore, in December, "A" Med had expanded its weekly out-patient visits to include: Nam Hoa, Gea Le, Loc Bon, Kim Long, Cam Lo, and Vinh Loc Districts; the Junk Fleet, CAC #8 and CAC #16.

By January 1967, three quonset huts to house the surgery, the x-ray and the laboratory/blood bank were completed at Phu Bai; however, these facilities were unoccupied and inoperable until April due to the lack of wiring and electrical power.

In April the Commanding Officer, 3rd Medical Battalion, ^{believed} ~~felt~~ that patients were receiving less than desired care. This he attributed to the rotation of medical personnel to BLT's (Battalion Landing teams) and the unprogrammed assignment of key personnel to other Division units. This made continuity of assignments extremely difficult, often resulting in untrained and inexperienced personnel being assigned to critical areas (e.g., ICU, triage, minor surgery) without time for proper indoctrination and/or training. With the arrival of "C" Med at Phu Bai, in April, more support was provided for operation SHAWNEE. During May, the Phu Bai field hospital processed 1,418 patients mostly received from

operation BIG HORN and "the Battle of KHE SANH." Further assistance was afforded the 3rd Medical Battalion with the arrival of the 1st Clearing Platoon of the 5th Medical Battalion, 5th Marine Division in June. During July, MUST #2 arrived at Phu Bai and became operable on the 30th. This MUST unit added 40 more in-patient beds plus two operating rooms.

Meanwhile, in June, "D" Med, started moving from old temporary quarters to a new location at Dong Ha. Work had commenced in March on 12 hard-back wards and nine quonset huts. The move was completed in July and the "D" Company hospital was officially opened on 14 July. By October, three tropical huts had been completed in the area and occupied by the 903rd Air Evacuation Detachment.

1 January 1968 saw the 1st clearing platoon "D" Med, 5th Medical Battalion, revert to the OPCON of the 9th MAB (Marine Amphibious Brigade) from the 3rd Medical Battalion at Phu Bai. During January the 3rd Medical Battalion was dispersed as follows:

"H&S" and "A" Med at Phu Bai

"A" Med MEDCAP - Thuy Dong #1 and #2; Vinh Loc; Nuoc Ngat;
Phu Bai-Hue; Kim Long orphanage, Hue; Fatima
Church, Hue; Gia Le; Ngoyen Trah; and Costal
Fleet #13

"C" Med, 2nd Clearing Platoon - Khe Sanh

"D" Med in support of Dong Ha

MUST #2 at "A" Med, Phu Bai

During the month, many casualties triaged at "D" Med were evacuated to "A" Med.

During February 1968, it was noted that receipt of medical supplies was still considered unsatisfactory. Lead time of 50-60 days was considered excessive and priority classification apparently had little meaning or significance. Apparently no improvement had been made in the supply system as the same criticism was made in February 1967.

The 2nd clearing platoon of "C" Med terminated its support of Khe Sanh during April. At approximately the same time "D" Med started shifting its medical supplies to Quang Tri and on 1 August the 3rd Medical Battalion Field Hospital moved from Phu Bai to Quang Tri and a third "grand opening" was conducted. However, receipt of patients, 120, was delayed until 16 August due to problems with the potable water supply and electricity.

About mid-May, the Commanding Officer, 3rd Medical Battalion, alerted the Division Surgeon of an impending shortage of medical department personnel indicated by rotation orders on battalion personnel. Transfers commenced in June and by August transfer of enlisted personnel, without replacements, had reach such a level that job continuity and staffing stability was greatly affected. Even the professional staff was considered inadequate. To alleviate this situation, personnel allowances of "D" Med were reduced from company strength to the barest necessary to run the field hospital at Dong Ha.

The situation became so critical that plans were made by G-5 to hire Vietnamese to augment the Navy medical staff. During this period, personnel of "A", "B" and "C" Companies were transferred to "H&S" Company to reduce administrative reduplication created by the functioning of the command as a "fixed" hospital rather than a mobile hospital. By September, loss of enlisted staff personnel was progressing so rapidly that it was adjudged "on-board" strength had depreciated to an unacceptable level. To further complicate the situation, the Medical Battalion was ordered by higher authority to assign 30 ^{hospital} corpsmen, (with less than 7 days left in-country) to duty with Combined Action Group (CAG) #1, #3 and #4. By October, the personnel situation was critical; there was a shortage of 60 enlisted men and 24 more were scheduled to rotate within the month; six corpsmen were still assigned to CAG's. Personnel relief was not forthcoming until December and it was not until January 1969 that personnel again reached an acceptable level.

Capabilities of the 3rd Medical Battalion hospital at Quang Tri were further jeopardized in September, by a typhoon which flooded and washed out roads. Poor drainage resulted in the undermining of building foundations and passageways standing in water. Needless to say, such flooding further compounded the aforementioned problem with the potable water supply.

Nor was the 3rd Medical Battalion hospital the only one to be subjected to near disaster. On 20 June 1968, several buildings of "D" Med at Dong Ha received concussion damage when Viet-Cong sappers detonated a nearby ammunition dump. Emergency cleanup and patching was conducted by the staff and the following day more permanent repairs were instituted by CBMU (Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit) 301. On 17 August, work was started to convert Delta Medical Facility into a Children's Memorial Hospital. This required complete restructuring and the installation of new outside toilets to accommodate both male and female Vietnamese patients. Dedication ceremonies for the 3rd Marine Division Memorial Children's Hospital were held on 1 September. "D" Med operated this hospital in addition to its mission of medically supporting U.S. military forces at the Dong Ha Support Base. The Navy medical staff was augmented by 12 Vietnamese nurse assistants, 7 Vietnamese maintenance personnel and 4 Vietnamese mess attendants in support of the Children's Hospital. During the first month of operation, the Children's Hospital had 414 hospital patient days and treated 1253 Vietnamese in the out-patient clinic. The 3rd Marine Division Memorial Children's Hospital was soon to receive its baptism of fire for on 22 October a hostile 130 mm artillery round made a direct hit on the dental clinic. A Marine ward, a children ward, the x-ray department and the dental staff quarters were damaged. Two Vietnamese workers were killed and two

Vietnamese nurses, five Navy dental technicians, two Navy ^{hospital} corpsmen, and one Marine were wounded. Another 130 mm artillery shell hit the helo pad on 30 October but fortunately caused only minor damage and no casualties.

Facilities at the 3rd Medical Battalion at Quang Tri continued to be expanded during early 1969. During the first 22 days of February, four MUST wards and 1 of 2 semi-permanent wards were opened, increasing bed capacity to 194. With the deployment of the U.S. Army 18th Surgical Hospital, the 3rd Medical Battalion assumed support of the 1st Brigade 5th Infantry (Mechanize) in addition to Marine elements. The moving of the 18th Surgical also forced the 3rd Medical Battalion to assume greater responsibility for the hospitalization and evacuation of ARVN's and Vietnamese civilians. While "B" Company, 75th Support Battalion, 1st Brigade, US Army was operating a 30 bed medical facility at the Quang Tri Combat Base, it transferred all urgent/emergency cases to the 3rd Medical Battalion for more definitive treatment. In keeping with the MEDCAP activities of the Division, numerous Navy medical officers volunteered to work, after hours, at the Quang Tri Provincial Hospital. During February the peak hospital census was 144,971, operating room procedures were undertaken, and 1145 patients were evacuated by helicopter. 7

The second semi-permanent ward was opened in April increasing bed capacity to 220. Peak hospital census was 224, operating room procedures increased to 1547 and 1424 evacuations were executed, 803 by helicopter and 621 by fixed wing aircraft.

Activities of the 3rd Medical Battalion and its letter company elements remained fairly stable over the next several months. However, by mid-year, 1969, certain elements of the 3rd Marine Division started to be withdrawn from Vietnam. July brought about the withdrawal of "B" Med which mounted out with the 9th Marine Regiment, "D" Med departed Quang Tri on 10 November and 21 November, the 3rd Medical Battalion relinquished their medical responsibilities to the U.S. Army 18th Surgical Hospital at Quang Tri and departed country ending the 3rd Medical Battalion's role in Vietnam.

Headquarters, 3rd Medical Battalion

	Casualties Processed	Evacuations				
		Total	Out Country	Hospital Ships	NSA Hospital	Other Military Facility
SEP '66	:	1,100	846	62	192	:
OCT '66	:	712	270	166	276	:
NOV '66	:	458	253	40	165	:
DEC '66	:	446	64	167	215	:
TOTAL	:	2,716	1,433	435	848	:

JAN '67 :	:	175 :	:	60 :	115 :	:
FEB '67 :	:	86 :	:	25 :	61 :	:
MAR '67 :	:	256 :	:	76 :	76 :	102 :
APR '67 :	:	273 :	:	45 :	79 :	149 :
MAY '67 :	1,418 :	1,067 :	:	330 :	393 :	344 :
JUN '67 :	1,656 :	991 :	:	85 :	557 :	349 :
JUL '67 :	:	918 :	:	363 :	242 :	313 :
AUG '67 :	1,356 :	:	:	:	:	:
SEP '67 :	1,060 :	1,060 :	:	270 :	443 :	347 :
OCT '67 :	1,232 :	1,142 :	:	254 :	521 :	367 :
NOV '67 :	1,115 :	676 :	:	86 :	395 :	195 :
DEC '67 :	1,294 :	803 :	:	71 :	463 :	269 :
TOTAL :	9,131 :	7,445 :	:	1,665 :	3,345 :	2,435 :

Headquarters, 3rd Medical Battalion

		Evacuations				
	Casualties	Total	Out Country	Hospital Ships	NSA Hospital	Other-- Military Facilities
	Processed					
JAN '68	1,341	872		144	341	387
FEB '68	5,515	674		92	291	291
MAR '68	1,408	723		26	142	555
APR '68	5,515	751				751
MAY '68	2,923	2,201				2,201
JUN '68	681	673				673
JUL '68	654	618				618
AUG '68	3,051	NR				
SEP '68	2,897	NR				
OCT '68	1,533	NR				
NOV '68	1,149	NR				
DEC '68	1,414	NR				
TOTAL	28,121	6,612		262	774	5,476

JAN '69	1,465	NR				
FEB '69	1,879	NR				
MAR '69	2,657	785		378	34	373
APR '69	3,523	719		358	100	261
MAY '69	1,516	1,048		463	194	391
JUN '69	1,748	1,330		553	318	459
JUL '69	1,001	715		379	136	200
AUG '69	915	634		407	8	219
SEP '69	803	488		296		192
TOTAL	15,507	5,719		2,834	790	2,095

	Hospital	Outpatients			Surgical	Evacuations	
	Admissions	Total	Viet	Others	Cases	Total	Out of Country
OCT '65	76	727	136			923	923
NOV '65	61	792	409			24	24
DEC '65	35	806	352				
TOTAL	172	2,325	897			947	947

JAN '66 :	36 :	585 :	205 :	686* :	775 :	775 :
FEB '66 :	34 :	766 :	433 :	1,604* :	:	:
MAR '66 :	82 :	864 :	168 :	:	:	:
APR '66 :	163 :	1,104 :	257 :	:	1,132 :	:
MAY '66 :	189 :	1,114 :	167 :	:	1,347 :	:
JUN '66 :	177 :	1,242 :	223 :	:	604 :	:
JUL '66 :	155 :	1,552 :	408 :	9' :	1,117 :	:
AUG '66 :	276 :	1,676 :	460 :	2' :	1,175 :	:
SEP '66 :	NR :	1,347 :	592 :	1' :	1,346 :	:
OCT '66 :	NR :	1,378 :	560 :	:	1,574 :	:
NOV '66 :	NR :	961 :	365 :	2' :	1,191 :	:
DEC '66 :	NR :	846 :	285 :	:	1,298 :	:
TOTAL :	1,112 :	13,435 :	4,123 :	:	10,784 :	775 : 775 :

(1) Viet Cong treated at sick call

		Outpatients			Evacuations		
Hospital					Surgical		
Admissions		Total	Viet	Others	Cases	Total	Out of Country
JAN '67		941	295		659		
FEB '67	NR						
MAR '67		945	253		866		
APR '67		1,130	275		1,094		
MAY '67		3,383	19	1'	1,242		
JUN '67		1,961	697		1,895		
JUL '67		1,526	242		2,182		
AUG '67		2,008			3,168		
SEP '67		1,842	699		2,836		
OCT '67		3,912	2,619		2,546		
NOV '67		4,564	3,164		2,153		
DEC '67		5,235	4,003		3,681		
TOTAL		27,447	12,276		22,322		
JAN '68		5,235	4,003	3,681*			
FEB '68		4,530	1,226	18'			
MAR '68		3,268	430	37'			
APR '68		9,126	611	24'			
MAY '68		2,470	489	26'			
TOTAL		24,629	6,759				

(1) Viet Cong treated at sick call

"D" Company

	Hospital Admissions					Outpatients			Evacuations				
	Total	Disease	NBI	IRMA	Viet	Total	Viet	Battle Cas.	Total	Cut Country	Hospital Ships	Not Hospital	Other
JUN '67:	154	123	21	10		6,565		186	1,323		76	467	780
JUL '67:	121	82	21	18		7,618		906	1,077		402	115	562
AUG '67:	205	142	40	23		6,406		380	746		344	218	184
SEP '67:	37												
OCT '67:						7,232			954		177	374	403
NOV '67:	170	98	38	34					448		40	175	233
DEC '67:	217	139	33	45				438	526		43	229	254
TOTAL :	904	584	153	130		27,821		2,949	6,179		1,272	1,872	3,037
JAN '68:	176	89	30	57			5,660	682	679		92	291	296
FEB '68:	172	61	20	91			6,484	1,304	107		1	53	53
MAR '68:	136	48	19	69			6,575	1,679	1,438		66	759	663
APR '68:	258	116	51	91			7,134	1,150	1,633		101	533	1,049
MAY '68:	261	149	18	94				2,201	2,045		192	481	1,372
JUN '68:	257	191	21	45				1,009	2,049		197	323	1,529
JUL '68:	262	139	71	52				731	5,005		719	475	3,811
AUG '68:	219	111	52	56				221	2,904		159	234	2,511
SEP '68:	155	130	24	1					56		2		54
OCT '68:	94	72	19	3					16		4		12
NOV '68:	109	71	37	1					14		2		12
DEC '68:	99	71	26	2					9				9
TOTAL :	2,198	1,248	388	562			25,854	8,977	16,055		1,535	3,149	11,371

"D" Company

	Hospital Admissions					Outpatients			Evacuations				
	Total	Disease	NBI	IRMA	Viet	Total	Viet	Battle Cas.	Total	Out Country	Hospital Ships	NSA Hospital	Other Military Hospitals
JAN '69	166	131	35	0					8		3		5
FEB '69	118	69	43	6					10		3		7
MAR '69	181	127	51	3			2,293		15				15
APR '69	221	140	78	3			2,522		40				40
MAY '69	NR												
JUN '69	229	174	50	5			1,697						
JUL '69	153	124	27	2			1,893		43		6	1	26
AUG '69	268	221	44	3			1,232		43		8		40
SEP '69	197	147	47	3					39		10		29
TOTAL	1,533	1,133	375	25			2,632		203		30	1	172

[illegible]

COMMANDING OFFICERS
1st HOSPITAL COMPANY, FMF.
VIETNAM 1966-1970

APR '66 - FEB '67	F. M. Roberts, CDR, MC, USN	
FEB '67 - MAR '67	D. N. Weedner, LCDR, MC, USNR	(Acting)
MAR '67 - MAY '67	R. M. O'Brien, LCDR, MC, USNR	
MAY '67 - JUL '67	C. H. Lowery, CDR, MC, USN	
JUL '67 - AUG '67	F. M. Roberts, CDR, MC, USN	
AUG '67 - JUL '68	J. S. Maughon, CDR, MC, USN	
JUL '68 - JUN '69	J. W. Deyton Jr, CDR, MC, USN	
JUL '69 - MAR '70	G. R. Hart, CAPT, MC, USN	

BATTALION COMMANDERS & LETTER COMPANY COMMANDING OFFICERS
3rd MEDICAL BATTALION, 3rd MARINE DIVISION, FMF
IN VIETNAM 1965-1969

Battalion Commander:

JUL '65 - MAY '66	A. C. Wilson, CDR, MC, USN
MAY '66 - AUG '67	J. T. Vincent, CDR, MC, USN
AUG '67 - SEP '68	R. A. Brown, CDR, MC, USN
SEP '68 - JUL '69	B. K. Slemmons, CDR, MC, USN
JUL '69 - DEC '69	J. V. Brown, CAPT, MC, USN

"H&S" Company:

SEP '65 - NOV '65	R. A. Dapaa, 1st LT, USMC
NOV '65 - DEC '65	J. O. Harris, CAPT, USMC
DEC '65 - MAR '66	D. F. Herman, CAPT, USMC
MAR '66 - MAY '66	W. A. Dewey, LT, MSC, USN
MAY '66 - AUG '66	C. "R" Waters, LT., MSC, USN
AUG '66 - JAN '67	A. R. Ellingson, LCDR, MSC, USN
JAN '67 - MAR '67	W. H. Parker III, LCDR, MSC, USN
MAR '67 - APR '67	J. S. Romine, LCDR, MC, USN
APR '67 - NOV '67	S. D. Harmon, LCDR, MC, USN
NOV '67 - MAR '68	J. S. Cox, MC, USN
MAR '68 - FEB '69	B. C. Roberts, LCDR, MSC, USN
FEB '69 - APR '69	F. D. Saine, LT, MSC, USN
APR '69 - DEC '69	J. R. Mulvey, LCDR, MSC, USN

"A" Company:

SEP '65 - MAR '66	H. D. Willcutts, LCDR, MC, USN
MAR '66 - AUG '66	F. A. Moll Jr., LCDR, MC, USN
AUG '66 - MAR '67	G. B. Townsend, LCDR, MC, USN
MAR '67 - AUG '67	H. E. Christensen, LCDR, MC, USN
AUG '67 - MAR '68	J. C. P. Collier, LCDR, MC, USN
MAR '68 - SEP '68	J. L. Murphy, LCDR, MC, USNR

"B" Company:

SEP '65 - FEB '66	H. W. S. Huseby, LCDR, MC, USN
FEB '66 - MAR '66	G. L. Wilson, CDR, MC, USN
MAR '66 - AUG '66	G. B. Townsend, LCDR, MC, USN
AUG '66 - JAN '67	J. S. Romine, LCDR, MC, USN
JAN '67 - MAR '67	H. E. Christensen, LCDR, MC, USN
MAR '67 - MAR '68	K. G. Price, LCDR, MC, USN
MAR '68 - SEP '68	F. W. Budd Jr., LCDR, MC, USN

"C" Company:

SEP '65 - JAN '66	R. M. Escajeda, LCDR, MC, USN
JAN '66 - MAR '66	G. H. Cross, LCDR, MC, USN
MAR '66 - NOV '66	R. G. Hauser, LCDR, MC, USN
NOV '66 - JAN '67	J. G. Chandler, LCDR, MC, USN
JAN '67 - MAR '67	J. C. Battaile, LCDR, MC, USN
MAR '67 - AUG '67	J. C. P. Collier, LCDR, MC, USN
AUG '67 - APR '68	P. M. Powell, LCDR, MC, USNR
APR '68 - MAY '68	A. E. King, LCDR, MC, USNR
MAY '68 - SEP '68	F. M. Skinner, LCDR, MC, USNR

"D" Company:

DEC '65 - MAR '66	R. S. Skelly Jr., LT(jg), MSC, USN
MAR '66 - JUL '66	A. R. Ellingson, LCDR, MC, USN
JUL '66 - JAN '67	R. W. Knapp, LCDR, MC, USN
JAN '67 - APR '67	N. S. McCollough, LCDR, MC, USN
APR '67 - SEP '67	J. S. Cox, LCDR, MC, USN
SEP '67 - MAR '68	M. E. Compton, LCDR, MC, USNR
MAR '68 - FEB '69	G. W. Philip, LCDR, MC, USN
FEB '69 - JUL '69	R. D. Roe, CDR, MC, USN
JUL '69 - DEC '69	G. F. Geisler, LCDR, MC, USNR

BATTALION COMMANDERS & LETTER COMPANY COMMANDING OFFICERS
1st MEDICAL BATTALION, 1st MARINE DIVISION, FMF
IN VIETNAM 1966-1971

Battalion Commander:

MAR '66 - FEB '67	R. H. Mitchell, CDR, MC, USN
FEB '67 - APR '67	J. C. Robins, CDR, MC, USN
APR '67 - SEP '67	P. D. Cooper, CDR, MC, USN
SEP '67 - MAR '68	C. H. Lowery, CDR, MC, USN
MAR '68 - FEB '69	J. V. Sharp, CDR, MC, USN
FEB '69 - JUN '70	J. W. Lea, CAPT, MC, USN
JUN '70 - JUL '70	T. R. Turner, CDR, MC, USNR
JUL '70 - APR '71	W. A. Elliot, CDR, MC, USN

"H&S" Company:

MAR '66 - DEC '66	(None, under Battalion CO)
JAN '67 - FEB '67	C. A. Roper, LT, MSC, USN
FEB '67 - MAY '67	R. L. Grice, LT, MSC, USN
MAY '67 - SEP '67	M. O. O'Brien, LCDR, MC, USN
SEP '67 - NOV '67	W. J. Mullins, LCDR, MC, USN
NOV '67 - MAR '68	G. R. Ford, LCDR, MSC, USN
MAR '68 - DEC '68	T. L. Spurgeon, LCDR, MSC, USN
DEC '68 - MAR '69	A. E. McConnell, LT, MSC, USN
MAR '69 - DEC '69	W. L. Weidner, LCDR, MSC, USN
DEC '69 - OCT '70	K. L. Darr, LCDR, MSC, USN
OCT '70 - DEC '70	S. G. Stringham, LCDR, MSC, USN
DEC '70 - JAN '71	G. D. Brown, LCDR, MSC, USN
JAN '71 - APR '71	I. D. Howard, LT, MSC, USN

"A" Company:

MAR '66 - MAY '66	R. A. Cusick, LT, MSC, USN
MAY '66 - OCT '66	(None; under Battalion CO)
OCT '66 - NOV '66	J. C. Robins, CDR, MC, USN
NOV '66 - MAY '67	S. H. Ayers Jr, LT(jg), MSC, USN
MAY '67 - OCT '67	D. N. Pasquale, LCDR, MC, USN
OCT '67 - FEB '68	S. A. Neill, LCDR, MC, USN
FEB '68 - AUG '68	D. H. Randells, LCDR, MC, USN
AUG '68 - APR '69	J. C. O'Brien, LCDR, MC, USNR
APR '69 - JUL '69	H. E. Keig, LCDR, MC, USNR
JUL '69 - SEP '69	D. H. Lewis, LCDR, MC, USN
SEP '69 - AUG '70	S. W. Williams, LCDR, MC, USN
AUG '70 - MAR '71	R. P. Pauley, LCDR, MC, USN
MAR '71 - APR '71	T. A. Grossi, CDR, MC, USN
APR '71 - MAY '71	I. D. Howard, LT, MSC, USN

"B" Company:

MAR '66 - MAY '66	G. S. Harris, LT, MSC, USN
MAY '66 - FEB '67	(None, under Battalion CO)
FEB '67 - MAY '67	C. R. Ashworth, CDR, MC, USNR
MAY '67 - JUL '67	J. W. Hauzenblas, LCDR, MC, USN
JUL '67 - SEP '67	E. T. Strickland, LCDR, MC, USN
SEP '67 - APR '68	R. C. Hamilton, LCDR, MC, USNR
APR '68 - AUG '68	S. A. Neill, LCDR, MC, USN
AUG '68 - NOV '68	F. E. Guteirrez, LCDR, MC, USNR
NOV '68 - FEB '69	P. J. Gillis, CDR, MC, USN
FEB '69 - SEP '69	S. D. Wilson, LCDR, MC, USN
SEP '69 - APR '70	G. G. Greccersen, LCDR, MC, USNR
APR '70 - AUG '70	W. W. Miller, LCDR, MC, USN
AUG '70 - APR '71	K. W. Eder, LCDR, MC, USN

"C" Company:

MAR '66 - MAY '66	R. A. Cusick, LT, MSC, USN
MAY '66 - DEC '66	(None, under Battalion CO)
JAN '67 - MAY '67	C. L. Hensley, LT, MSC, USN
MAY '67 - SEP '67	D. A. Taft, LCDR, MC, USN
SEP '67 - AUG '68	G. A. Van de Wyngaeroe, LCDR, MC, USNR
AUG '68 - JAN '69	C. A. Voss, LCDR, MC, USN
JAN '69 - OCT '69	J. E. Williams, LCDR, MC, USN
OCT '69 - JUN '70	P. B. Blanchard, LCDR, MC, USN
JUN '70 - AUG '70	K. M. McDonald, LCDR, MC, USN

"D" Company

MAR '66 - MAY '66	B. L. Ozment, LT(jg), MSC, USN
MAY '66 - NOV '66	(None, under Battalion CO)
NOV '66 - FEB '67	C. R. Ashworth, CDR, MC, USNR
FEB '67 - APR '67	R. D. Cooper Jr., CDR, MC, USN
APR '67 - SEP '67	J. B. Fenning, LCDR, MC, USN
SEP '67 - FEB '68	D. H. Randels, LCDR, MC, USN
FEB '68 - MAY '68	R. B. M. Delissner, LCDR, MC, USN
MAY '68 - JUL '68	H. E. Smith, LCDR, MC, USNR
JUL '68 - MAR '69	J. B. Powell, LCDR, MC, USNR
MAR '69 - OCT '69	J. A. Tobias, LCDR, MC, USNR
OCT '69 - JUN '70	C. S. Brown, LCDR, MC, USN
JUN '70 - SEP '70	W. A. J. MacLeod, LCDR, MC, USN
SEP '70 - APR '71	G. R. Looney, LCDR, MC, USN

Attached & Detached Units:

Company B(-):

MAR '66 - MAY '66	J. C. Robins, CDR, MC, USN
JAN '67 - MAR '67	J. L. Robertson, LT, MSC, USN
MAR '67 - JUN '67	R. M. O'Brien, LCDR, MC, USN

Company B (Det.):

JAN '67 - FEB '67	F. N. Henson, LT, MSC, USN
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Company C, 3rd Med. Bn:

JAN '67 - FEB '67	J. C. Bataille, LCDR, MC, USNR
MAR '67 - APR '67	J. C. P. Collier, LCDR, MC, USN

Company A, 5th Med. Bn:

OCT '69 - FEB '70	J. T. Kilroy, LT, MC, USNR
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1st Hospital Company:

APR '67 - MAY '67	R. M. O'Brien, LCDR, MC, USN
MAY '67 - JUN '67	C. H. Lowery, CDR, MC, USN
JUL '67 - AUG '67	F. M. Roberts, CDR, MC, USN